

REMARKS

In this Response, Applicants amend claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 11, 12, and 14, cancel claims 5, 8-9 and 15-46, add new claims 47-52 and remove the bases for the Examiner's rejections. Applicants amend the claims solely to expedite prosecution and do not acquiesce to any of the Examiner's rejections. Applicants' amendments to the claims are supported throughout the application. Applicants' silence with regard to the Examiner's rejections of dependent claims constitutes a recognition by the Applicants that the rejections are moot based on the Applicants' Amendment and/or Remarks relative to the independent claim from which the dependent claims depend. Applicants reserve the option to further prosecute the same or similar claims in the present or a subsequent application. Upon entry of the Amendment, claims 1-4, 6-7, 10-14 and 47-52 are pending in the present application.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-10, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 23-26, 30-39, and 43-46 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Wagner.

The Examiner also rejected claims 11, 12 and 40-42 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wagner in view of Takahashi.

The Examiner also rejected claims 15, 18 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wagner in view of Hein.

The Examiner also rejected claims 21, 22, 27, 28 and 29 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wagner in view of Basu.

As amended, independent claim 1 is directed to a method of providing input to a system which uses a visual display for providing information to a user, and an indicator in the display for permitting user control. More particularly, the claim is directed to a method in which the input provided to the system is the location of the indicator in the visual display.

In the Office Action the Examiner stated that Wagner taught a method for providing input to a system which used a visual display for providing information to a user, in which a feature associated with the user is chosen, locations of that feature in video images at an

initial time and at a subsequent time are determined, and input is provided to the system based on the location of the feature in the video image at the subsequent time. Wagner is very different from amended claim 1, however. Wagner is directed at a system for determining the identity of an individual based on the movement of certain of the individual's features within a sequence of video images. In Wagner, therefore, the signal provided to the system is the identity of the individual, determined by suitable analysis of the motion of specified features such as the corners of the individual's mouth. Wagner is not directed at controlling the location of an indicator in the display, and it provides no input signal to the system to locate an indicator on the visual display.

Accordingly, Wagner does not anticipate amended claim 1, and that claim should be allowed.

It will be appreciated that, in view of the fact that Wagner does not anticipate claim 1 as amended, it also does not anticipate claims 2, 3, 10 or 13, or amended claims 4, 6 or 7, which depend from that claim and previously also were rejected as anticipated by Wagner. Similarly, Wagner does not anticipate new claim 47, which depends from claim 1.

Applicants' claim 14, previously a claim that depended from claim 1, also was rejected by the Examiner as anticipated by Wagner. Claim 14 has been amended to be an independent claim. As amended, it claims providing a "yes" or a "no" input to the system based upon whether the user feature has moved horizontally or vertically. As discussed above, Wagner is directed solely at determining the identity of an individual; therefore, it does not teach a method for an individual to provide an affirmative or negative signal to a system by moving a body feature.

Accordingly, Wagner does not anticipate amended claim 14, and that claim should be allowed.

Applicants' claims 11 and 12, as amended, add to the teaching of claim 1 the additional feature of providing further input to the system based upon the location of the user feature in the image changing by less than a specified amount during a defined time period. As noted, Wagner does not disclose amended claim 1, and therefore it necessarily does not disclose amended claims 11 and 12. Takahashi discloses monitoring traffic flow

using video images, and the use of the change of location in the image of a particular vehicle to determine the speed of the traffic, and in particular that the traffic is moving at a low speed. Neither Takahashi nor Wagner, therefore discloses determining the location on a display of an indicator by means of the location of a feature in the video image.

So Wagner neither teaches nor suggests independent claim 1's or independent claim 14's subject matter. Nor does Takahashi.

Finally, new claims 48-52 are not disclosed by Wagner or Takahashi in that those new claims all relate to a method for emulating a mouse in providing input to a system, and neither Wagner nor Takahashi discloses any method involving the emulation of a mouse.

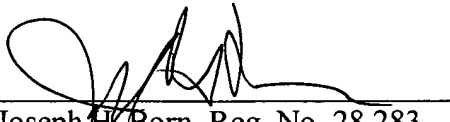
Since none of the prior art of record teaches or suggests the independent claims' subject matter as amended, those claims are allowable, as are the claims that depend on them.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner allow the application as amended.

Respectfully submitted,

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